

is placed on the "iron-relationship between diseases of the kidney and so-called signs, symptoms and complications of nephritis." This part of the author's work is a great contribution to independent medical thought and has given the profession a valuable point of view. There is added a discussion of the relation between focal infection and systemic disease in which the purely infectious origin of vascular disease is presented. Finally a group of clinical cases are discussed in which the application of the writer's views are demonstrated.

The fact that a call was made for this edition shows there are a number of independent and open-minded thinkers in the field who have succeeded in overcoming the prejudice of the orthodox preaching of authorities. It is, indeed, a sad commentary on the type of minds of our so-called leaders in medical thought that, although the views of the author have been condemned for a decade, yet, these same authorities are now incorporating in their discussions these views as "self-evident truths, the original sponsor for which needs never to be mentioned."

M. B.

Medical Electricity, Roentgen Rays and Radium, with a practical chapter on Phototherapy. By Sinclair Tousey, M.D., Consulting Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Clinic, New York City. Third edition. Thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged. Octavo of 1337 pages with 861 practical illustrations, 16 in colors. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1921. Cloth \$10 net.

A large volume of 1350 pages with 861 illustrations covering the physics of electricity, the use of currents in diagnosis and treatment and the production and use of X-rays, with a short section on radium and its uses. As a whole the book is very complete from the rudimentary principles of electricity to the complicated technique of radio-therapy. Perhaps too much space is given to the description of apparatus and tubes which now have only a historical interest, but this adds to its value as a book of reference.

L. B.

Books Received

Books received are acknowledged in this column, and such acknowledgement must be regarded as a sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Selections will be made for review in the interests of our readers and as space permits.

Benign Stupors. A study of a new manic-depressive reaction type. By August Hoch, M.D., late director of the psychiatric institute of the New York State Hospitals, Ward's Island, New York; late professor psychiatry, Cornell University Medical College, New York. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1921. Price, \$2.25.

A Treatise On Cataract. By Donald T. Atkinson, M. D. Illustrated. New York, The Vail-Ballou Company. 1921.

A Treatise on Diseases of the Skin. For advanced students and practitioners. By Henry W. Stelwagon, M.D., Ph.D., Ninth edition with the assistance of Henry Kennedy Gaskill, M. D., with 401 text illustrations and twenty-nine colored and half-tone plates. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1921. Price, \$10.

Applied Psychology for Nurses. By Mary F. Porter, A.B., graduate nurse; teacher of applied psychology, Highland Hospital, Ashville, N. C. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1921.

The Spleen and Some of Its Diseases. Being the Bradshaw Lecture of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, 1920. By Sir Berkeley Moynihan, with thirteen full page diagrams. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1921. Price, \$5.

Principles of Medical Treatment. By George Cheever Shattuck, M.D., A.M. Fifth revised edition with contributions by various authors. Boston: W. M. Leonard, Inc., Publishers. 1921.

A Textbook of Surgical Anatomy. By William Francis Campbell, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.S. Third edition, revised with 325 original illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1921.

Diseases of the Skin. By Richard L. Sutton, M.D., with 969 illustrations and eleven colored plates. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company. 1921.

Surgical Clinics of North America. August, 1921, Volume 1, Number 4, Chicago Number. Published bimonthly. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. Price per year, \$12.

Medical Clinics of North America. July, 1921, Volume 5, Number 1, Chicago Number. Published bimonthly. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. Price per year, \$12.

General Surgery (Practical Medicine Series). Edited by Albert J. Ochsner. Volume 2, 1921. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. Price, \$2.50.

Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat (Practical Medicine Series). Edited by Casey A. Wood, Albert H. Andrews, and George E. Shambaugh. Volume 3, 1921. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. Price, \$1.75.

Department of Pharmacy and Chemistry

Edited by FELIX LENGFELD, Ph. D.

Help the propaganda for reform by prescribing official preparations. The committees of the U. S. P. and N. F. are chosen from the very best therapists, pharmacologists, pharmacognosists and pharmacists. The formulae are carefully worked out and the products tested in scientifically equipped laboratories under the very best conditions. Is it not plausible to assume that these preparations are, at least, as good as those evolved with far inferior facilities by the mercenary nostrum maker who claims all the law will allow?

"Iodine."—Psychologists should study why iodine is made the basis of so many fake preparations foisted upon the medical profession. There certainly are enough iodine preparations in the U. S. P. and N. N. R. to supply any therapeutic want, and yet almost every report of the A. M. A. Council contains the name of some new iodine preparation which has been examined and found wanting. Most of these preparations claim to have all of the good and none of the bad qualities of iodine. Unfortunately, most of them contain very much less iodine than stated in the advertisement. It would not be so bad if they contained the quantity specified, for then the patient would suffer only in purse, whereas now he pays a high price for something he does not get and does not get what he needs.

"Proteogens in Syphilis."—C. F. Engels, Tacoma, Wash., reports that two persons came to him who had been treated with Proteogen No. 10 for almost a year. Both patients were four plus to the Wassermann test. He writes: "The tragedy of the whole thing is that here are two people, at least, who have been deprived of adequate treatment for a year, spending their money for ignorance and fakery, getting worse instead of better, and all because of the cupidity of these people (the promoters of the Proteogens) and their success of putting over on some of the weak sisters of the profession this pseudo-scientific bunk." (Jour. A. M. A. June 4, 1921, p. 1593.)

Considering the results obtained with Arsphenamine, Neo-Arsphenamine, Mercury and Iodides, there seems to be no excuse for depriving the syphilitic of these remedies. A number of arsenic preparations have been advertised as substitutes for Arsphenamine, Neo-Arsphenamine and Silver-Arsphenamine. Several of these have retracted their claims when pressed by the Council.

The Arsphenamines are probably not the last word in anti-syphilis remedies, but no substitute should be used until it has been thoroughly investigated in the laboratory and under the very best possible conditions. The profession at large may feel certain that anything which is a real improvement upon the Arsphenamines will require little advertising, but will have its merits soon written in letters so large that "he who runs may read."

"Aspirin Bayer."—Physicians should order Acetylsalicylic Acid, as such, and not order it under the popular name, "Aspirin," as this name means that "Aspirin Bayer" must be supplied, even though a physician desires some other product.

"Disappointments in Endocrinology."—In the current enthusiasm for so-called endocrinology, medicine may become humiliated by the drift toward a sort of pseudoscience, bolstered up with meaningless words and unfounded assumptions. Stewart deserves the thanks of the medical profession for the fearless and critical manner in which he has questioned (*Endocrinology*, vol. 5, p. 283, May, 1921) much of the verbal rubbish that goes under the designation of the endocrinology of the suprarrenals. There is something stinging, yet deserved, in its implied rebukes, in the words of Dr. Stewart: "On the whole," he says, "it must be granted that hitherto the attempts made to evoke in animals a well-marked syndrome, characteristic of adrenal deficiency, have been singularly disappointing. The contrast is great when we leave this desert, where the physiologists and experimental pathologists have wandered, striking many rocks but finding few springs, and pass into the exuberant land of clinical endocrinology, flowing with blindest milk and honey, almost suspiciously sweet." How much longer will the medical profession continue to merit such criticism? Just so long as the profession continues to give serious consideration to pseudoscientific rubbish promulgated by the exploiters of organic extracts. (*Jour. A. M. A.*, June 11, 1921, p. 1685.)

A bad feature of the proprietary mixed gland products now presented to the medical profession is that the public has learned that they are being used and has begun to dose itself. It would surprise many physicians to learn how many people come into the drug store and ask for these, because they have been prescribed for a friend or recommended by a friend. Before these mixed products became so popular thyroid tablets were the only ones in popular demand.

There seems little chance that the average adult, living under present conditions in the United States, will suffer from any deficiency of vitamins. He probably swallows in the course of an ordinary meal enough to last him a week. However, vitamins, like relativity, appeal to the public taste for the mysterious, and the patent medicine maker, knowing this, has begun to recommend vitamins for all kinds of ailments. There is a silver lining to this cloud. Vitamine tablets probably do no harm if they do no good.

"Oxyl Iodide," said to be the hydroiodide of cinchopen, has been refused admittance to the N. N. R. on the ground that it has no advantage over mixtures of cinchopen and iodides. Cinchopen and iodide are seldom indicated at the same time, and when they are, a physician can regulate his dose of each by prescribing as much of each as he wants.

"Chaulmoogra Oil in Leprosy."—There seems to be little doubt that the good results from Chaulmoogra Oil in leprosy are due to the presence of a number of chemically related acids, any one of which seems efficacious. The ethyl esters of these acids, given hypodermically, seems to hold the disease in check and perhaps cure it. No nauseating oil need be given by mouth. It is possible that the oil would have the same effect if taken by

mouth, but it is difficult to get the patient to take enough owing to the nausea produced.

"Procain Dermatitis" seems not infrequent and is extremely annoying. "The treatment is palliative and includes removal of the etiologic factor." (*Jour. A. M. A.*, July 30, 1921, p. 395.)

"Iron and Arsenic in Anemia."—Experiments at the Geo. William Hooper Foundation, in the University of California Medical School, seem to indicate that neither iron nor arsenic is of any use in simple anemia. Most physicians will insist that both iron and arsenic are useful in many cases of anemia. The simple anemia studied was produced by bleeding the animal. The clinician sees little or none of this kind of anemia. It is almost certain that iron and arsenic do relieve the conditions which produce clinical anemia and are useful therapeutic agents.

"Salicaine."—Salicylic alcohol is now marketed under the name of Salicaine by the Calco Company. It is apparently a much better local anesthetic than Benzyl alcohol, its parent substance, and is only one-fifth as toxic as procaine.

New Members

Benziger, Martin, San Francisco; Housman, N. S., San Francisco; Derbyshire, Albert L., San Diego; Roth, Earle F., Geyserville; Lumsden, Arthur C., Petaluma; Barnes, Wm. H., Berkeley; Chamberlain, Edwin F., San Diego; Geisweit, W. H., San Diego; Pettit, Albert V., San Francisco; Seaforth, Edgar A., San Francisco; Pettis, Zilda T., San Francisco; Ullman, H. J., Santa Barbara; Schmidt, E. C., Santa Barbara; Brush, Nathaniel H., Santa Barbara; Kay, Guy L., Placentia; Parrett, A. S., Brea; Munch, Louise L., Anaheim; Martell, Bessie S., Santa Ana.

Deaths

Condory, Vilmas. Died in San Francisco, October 30, 1921. Was a graduate of the University of Buda Pesth, Hungary, 1869. Licensed in California, 1897. Age 84.

Roberts, Wm. Henry. Died November 9, 1921. Was a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College, San Francisco, 1884. Licensed in California, 1884.

Roche, Thos. B. Died in San Francisco, October 26, 1921. Was a graduate of the University of California, 1898. Licensed in California, 1898.

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